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 Governor

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 Secretary

KARYN E. POLITO
 Lt. Governor

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 8, 2020

Time: 11:00AM-1:00PM

Location: <https://statema.webex.com/statema/e.php?MTID=m4ea1c80cbee7efd21bbe531ad15de8f7>

Meeting Number (Access Code): 161 285 3290

Meeting Password: pBuYaZpG823

Join by phone: 1-203-607-0564 US Toll

1-866-692-3580 US Toll Free

Agenda Items:

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Andrew Peck at 11:06am.

		<u>Video/Call</u>	<u>Absent</u>
1	Chair -Andrew Peck	X	
2	Scott Taberner	X	
3	Rep. Sean Garballey	X	
4	Sen. James Eldridge	X	
5	Becky Michaels (*)	X	
6	Allison S. Cartwright	X	
7	John Millett	X	
8	Ret. Chief Fred Ryan	X	
9	Stephanie McCarthy (**)	X	
10	Mary Quinn	X	
11	Judge Rosemary Minehan		X
12	Kara Hayes	X	
13	Carolyn Boyes-Watson	X	
14	Erin Freeborn	X	
15	Cheis Garrus		X
16	Susan Jeghelian	X	
17	Strong Oak Lefebvre	X	

(*) Joined meeting at 11:40am

(**) Designee for Diane Coffey

EOPSS Staff: Anjeza Xhemollari and Spencer Lord

Others in attendance:

Over 15+ members of the public attended the open meeting.

2. Welcome

Chairman Andrew Peck welcomed all committee members and attendance was taken.

3. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 11, 2020

Roll call was taken to approve the meeting minutes. All present members voted in favor to accept the meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion on the 2020 Annual Report

The Committee among themselves deliberated on the 2020 Annual Report and they discussed on inserting additional edits to the annual report. The suggested edits were made by Becky Michaels, ironed out by Fred Ryan and collectively collaborated by the subcommittee members of the annual report. As the host of the meeting was showing all three different versions of the edits, Kara Hayes provided feedback on how the inclusion of the murder of George Floyd came about after receiving committee feedback and how it's important to voice his name in the annual report.

The Committee recognized that the murder of George Floyd was never discussed in any of the meetings, but saying his name is what created a social movement around the globe. Spencer Lord indicated that there were other individuals that the media did not pick up on and it would not be fair to others not being named. Spencer talked about the Governor's Task Force on Hate Crimes and stated how reports need to be factual.

Fred Ryan made a motion to have Spencer Lord draft a paragraph to capture this conversation and not to name a crime victim in the annual report and vote on the annual report in January. John Millet second the motion. Roll call was taken. Majority of voters were not in favor.

		Yes	No	Absent	Abstained
1	Chair-Andrew Peck	X			
2	Scott Taberner		X		
3	Rep. Sean Garballey	X			
4	Sen. James Eldridge	X			
5	Becky Michaels (*)				X
6	Allison S. Cartwright		X		
7	John Millett	X			
8	Ret. Chief Fred Ryan	X			
9	Stephanie McCarthy (**)	X			
10	Mary Quinn		X		
11	Judge Rosemary Minehan			X	
12	Kara Hayes		X		
13	Carolyn Boyes-Watson		X		
14	Erin Freeborn		X		
15	Cheis Garrus			X	
16	Susan Jeghelian		X		
17	Strong Oak Lefebvre		X		

(*) Joined meeting at 11:40am

(**) Designee for Diane Coffey

Since the motion to draft a new paragraph without naming a victim by name did not pass. Susan Jeghelian asked to make a motion and include the final version of edits of the murder of George Floyd into the 2020 annual report. Motion was second by Carolyn Boyes-Watson. Roll call was taken. Majority of voters were in favor. Motion passed.

		Yes	No	Absent	Abstained
1	Chair-Andrew Peck		X		
2	Scott Taberner	X			
3	Rep. Sean Garballey	X			
4	Sen. James Eldridge	X			
5	Becky Michaels (*)				X
6	Allison S. Cartwright	X			
7	John Millett		X		
8	Ret. Chief Fred Ryan		X		
9	Stephanie McCarthy (**)	X			
10	Mary Quinn	X			
11	Judge Rosemary Minehan			X	
12	Kara Hayes	X			
13	Carolyn Boyes-Watson	X			
14	Erin Freeborn	X			
15	Cheis Garrus			X	
16	Susan Jeghelian	X			
17	Strong Oak Lefebvre	X			

(*) Joined meeting at 11:40am

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5. Strong Oak Lefebvre: A circle process for the RJAC

Strong Oak started the circle process and made sure to incorporate voices from public members into participating in this new virtual process of open meeting and no confidentiality. Strong Oak talked about all voices being equal and the importance of listening. To speak our thoughts and how we see the world. To use the force for change and justice.

Carolyn Boyes-Watson-Thanked Strong Oak for the opening remarks and was happy to hear what she was saying. This is hard to do but we have had a heartfelt conversation. Maybe do these more often? Is this a way to convene in the future?

Susan Jeghelian- Truly appreciate the work. Authenticity could come through, truthful, open and honest.

Becky Michaels-Sad to have missed such an important conversation. Was in court dealing with cases.

Allison Cartwright- Tired! Exhausted. I'm a black woman working for CPCS. Fighting constantly for Black/Brown clients. I feel it. I live it. I have three degrees; at times I don't feel respected or valued. We need to be in a place of respect. I'm exhausted!

Kara Hayes- I see you Allison. Is there respect here for me? Will I be equal? Will my feelings be confidential? I can't talk to this group safely.

Scott Taberner-without RFR we could inventory our partners and neighbors. Urge to work the inventory process.

Erin Freeborn- I'd like us to spend some time as a group to determine our vision, where we should go from here?

Undersecretary Peck-had to jump off the call and attend another meeting.

6. Public Comment (10 minutes)

Maria D'Addecio-happy that these conversations are ongoing.

Kathy- the Committee should be more inclusive and broader. Other voices need to be at the table. Need new perspective.

Susan Maze-Rothstein-here to support Strong Oak today. Truth telling from the heart. Kara Hayes brought up good points. Establish guidelines. It is important if circle process continues to be implemented.

Strong Oak ends the circle by being moved on what people have expressed. The values, the commitments, the groups and all the voices that were heard.

7. Open Session for Topics not Reasonably Anticipated within 48 Hours of the Meeting

N/A

8. Adjourn

Scott Taberner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was Second by Becky Michaels. Meeting ended at 1:15pm.